

America, which is going to bring back the Reagan revolution once again.

#### SUPPORT URGED FOR LOBBYIST GIFT BAN

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, Democrats were proud to join Republicans yesterday in passing many necessary procedural reforms. Those reforms continue the work begun by Democrats to make the House more accountable to the people. But, Republicans failed to act on the most important reform, the one central to our ability to restore faith in Government—the ban on gifts from lobbyists.

The American people are fed up with a Congress bought and paid for by the special interests. Perks and privileges betray the public trust. Until Democrats and Republicans unite to end the corrupting influence of the moneyed interests on this body, we have failed to deliver the change that the American people have demanded.

So I ask my Republican counterparts to join Democrats in telling the influence peddlers that this House is not for sale—not for the price of a free meal; not for the price of a junket to a tropical island; not for sale at any price. Let us pass the gift ban and begin restoring the People's House to the people.

#### A HISTORIC DAY FOR CONGRESS

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, what a proud day for a freshman from Lake Worth, FL, to step on to the floor of the House of Representatives and be sworn in, but, more importantly, pass the promises that I made on the campaign trail; to see Members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats alike, elected by the people of the United States of America, bring respect and honor to this House of Representatives. We started a historic day, a historic opportunity, to bring trust back to this institution.

There is much to be done in the 104th Congress. We know we will work with our friends on the Democratic aisle on welfare reform, immigration reform, balancing the budget, stopping violent criminals, protecting our children, and restoring hope for American families to achieve the American dream.

Mr. Speaker, with good, continued cooperation and good will, we can continue to keep the promises we made to America. The 104th Congress will truly be successful.

#### GIVE AND TAKE NEEDED IN HOUSE

(Mr. RICHARDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday belonged to the Republican majority, and there were moments of grace and class, and we did pass some needed reforms. But there was an absence of bipartisanship and an absence of openness in the process.

The Republicans were two for two. Out of two bills we considered, there were two closed rules, two gag rules, where the minority was unable to offer alternatives.

The American people voted for less government and more ethics and accountability. They did not vote for arrogant government, for one-party coronations. They voted for bipartisanship and an end to gridlock. We wanted to raise the gift ban, the royalties issues, and the frequent flier issue, but were shut off.

Mr. Speaker, the best contract with America is give and take, compromise, openness, and bipartisanship. Regrettably, yesterday was not a good start.

#### TRUST AND FAITH IN CONGRESS BEING RESTORED

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my thanks to the American people for the opportunity of allowing me to participate in what clearly was yesterday's congressional revolution.

During 40 years of Democratic control of Congress, this House never saw so much reform in one single day, honoring our promise to the American people. We began our journey by reforming the way Washington works by passing nine congressional reform measures, knowing full well that cleaning up our own House must be a first priority, before we carry America's agenda.

I am particularly pleased of our reform measures that have brought greater accountability to this House. Included in these reforms I am especially pleased with the ordering of a full and thorough audit, which will hopefully restore the public's faith in Congress.

In addition, we have finally ended the arrogance of Congress, by forcing Congress to live by the same laws it imposes on everyone else.

Mr. Speaker, with continued diligence, we can restore America's trust and faith in Congress. I look forward to our continued success, and pledge my unending support to fulfill our promise to the American people.

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#### THEY CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday this House passed bipartisan legislation to reform Congress. Together Democrats and Republicans took the first important step toward restoring faith in this institution, and I applaud the new leadership for that.

But I had one disappointment. There is one thing Americans do not want, and that is a double standard. That is why we applied the laws of this land to the rules of this Congress.

Yet for 2 years our Republican friends criticized the fact that we had closed rules, that we did not allow amendments to be brought forward on this floor. My friends on the Republican side should do one of two things. They should either admit they were wrong over the last 2 years as they attacked Democrats for trying to limit amendments on this floor, or they should admit they were wrong yesterday and today in trying to limit that open process. It is their choice, and I am willing to accept that choice, but they cannot have it both ways.

Mr. Speaker, I hope we can proceed with open rules and the open process, and I look forward to working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to restore faith in this institution.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS' EQUITY ACT

(Mr. BUNNING of Kentucky asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I, along with my colleagues, Mr. HASTERT, Mrs. KELLY, and Mrs. THURMAN, and over 125 other Members of Congress, introduced the Senior Citizens' Equity Act aimed at alleviating the financial burdens the Clinton administration has piled on older Americans.

This legislation has four main components. First it will allow our seniors to earn more without losing their Social Security benefits. Many older Americans must continue working to pay for life's necessities. Their Social Security benefits simply do not go far enough.

Next it would repeal the Clinton tax increase on Social Security benefits. This was one of the most outrageous proposals in his tax bill 2 years ago.

Our bill also includes tax incentives for long-term health care and clearly defines the "adult-only" housing under the fair housing amendments so retirement communities can continue and grow without fear of discrimination suits.

I am committed to seeing this legislation enacted. I especially look forward to working with Chairman ARCHER on this bill. He has long supported